

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claims 1, 8 and 10 have been cancelled, while claim 2 has been made dependent on claim 5. In addition, claim 6 has been amended such that it is an apparatus claim co-extensive with method claim 5. Furthermore, claims 9 and 11 have been amended for clarity. Finally, new claims 14-16, depending from claim 6, have been added and claim additional features of the invention.

The Examiner has rejected claims 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. 101 "because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility".

Applicants believe that the above changes to independent claims 9 and 11 answer this rejection, and respectfully request withdrawal thereof.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-8, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,706,843 to Laub. Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has allowed claim 5.

In view of the above changes, Applicants believe that the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection has been overcome.

Applicants believe that this application, containing claims 2-7, 9 and 11-16, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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